

T H E

Countrey-Man's Guide ;

CONTAINING

Divers Necessary and Useful Rules  
and Instructions of the Year,  
Months and Days ; with many  
other things of delight & profit.

Wherein are several matters Ex-  
plain'd, which may seem very  
ambiguous to an Intelligible  
Reader :

And also directions for Setting,  
Trowling, Lowbelling, taking  
Birds with Lime-twiggs and  
Springes; with the exact method  
of Firing at a Mark.

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Calculated by Art for the benefit  
of all Ingenuous Readers.

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L O N D O N,

Printed for P. Brooksby, 1697.

## THE Country-Mans Guide.

*Of a Year, what it is, with the difference betwixt the English and Gregorian Account.*

**A** Year is that space of time wherein the Sun runs his preambulation through the twelve signs of the Zodiack, containing 12 Solar Months, 13 Lunar, 52 Weeks, 365 Days, 6 Hours; and 6 Minutes, which 6 hours in four years space being added together, make one day, which we commonly call *Bissextile*, or *Leap-Year*, and is added to the Kalendar on the 25 of *February*, making that month every fourth year 29 days long which at other times is but 28. This account was thus named by *Julius Caesar*, the first Roman Emperor, who reduced the year to a better method than before, and from him it was called the *Julian Account*, yet still the six minutes remain un-numbered, which in that time arose to some days, and therefore *Gregory Pope of Rome* to make the year exactly answerable to the Sun diurnal course calling up the days with those minutes amounted unto, placed his Festivals exactly answerable to the Suns progress, which in sixteen hundred years hath amounted to 10 days and is from him called the *Gregorian Account* being used in all those parts beyond Sea which acknowledge the Popes Supremacy.

*Quest. How many Days is in each Month?*

*Ans<sup>r</sup>. Thirty days hath September,  
April, June, and November,  
All the rest hath thirty and one,  
Except it be February alone,  
But every Leap-year at that time,  
February hath twenty nine.*

*Of the day, with the several divisions thereof.*

An Artificial day consists of 12 hours, a Natural day 24 hours. The *Athenians* began their day from Sun-set; but the *Jews*, *Chaldeans*, and *Babylonians*, from Sun-rise: The *Egyptians* and *Romans* from midnight, of whom we took our pattern to count the hours from thence; the *Umbrians* from noon. The parts of a politicke or civil day, (according to *Macrobius*) are these; The first time of the day is after Midnight; the second in *Latine Gallicinium*, Cocks crow; the third *Canticinium*, the space between the first Cock and break of day; the fourth *Diluculum*, the break or dawn of the day; the fifth *Mare*, the morning; the sixth *Meridies*, noon or mid-day; the seventh *Pomeridies*, the afternoon; the eight *Serum diei*, Sun-set; the ninth *Suprema tempestas*, twi-light; tenth *Vesper*, the evening; the eleventh *Prima Lux*, candle time; the twelfth *Nox concubia*, bed time; the thirteenth *Nox in-tempesta*, the dead time of the night.



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*Directions for the Country-man what  
he is to do each month in the year.*

### *For January.*

**T**His is a chargeable month, and therefore more troublesome to the poor than to the rich, as the days increase so does the cold, but is somewhat qualified with hopes of the approaching Spring. The fields as well as trees, are now disrobed of all their verdure and are quite naked, unless cloathed with white, whilst the Country-man sits at home enjoying the fruits of his past labours, contemplating on what is to be done. A cup of good Cyder or other good Liquor does not now amiss, such as last autumn produced, which being moderately taken proves the best Physick.

A cold *January* is seasonable; Plough up the ground you intend for pease, water meadows and pastures: drain Arable grounds where you intend to sow Pease, Oats or Barly, rear Calves, Pigs, &c. lay dung on heaps, carry it on land in frosty weather: On pasture land hedge and ditch.

Plant Timber trees or any Coppice wood, or Hedge-wood; and also quick-fets: cut Coppices and Hedge rows; lop and prune greater Trees.

Feed Doves and repair Dove houses; cut away ant hills; and fill up the holes in meadows and pasture grounds; gather stones, have special care of cows and lambs; house calves; geld young cattle soon after they are fallen: sow Oats,  
if you will have the best

Plant



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Plant Vines and other fruit trees, if the weather be open and mild; dig and trench Gardens, or other ground for Pease or Beans against the spring dig borders, uncover roots of trees where need is, and add such manure to them as they require: You may also if the weather prove mild, set Beans and Pease. As yet Roses may be cut and removed.

Prune Orchard fruits and Vines, so that it be not frosty; nail and trim Wall fruits; cleanse Trees of Moss in Moist weather.

Gather Cione for Grafts, and stick them in the ground; for they will take the better at the latter end, if the weather be mild, you may begin to graft.

Make your hot beds, and sow therein your choice Sallads; sow Colliflowers; secure your choice plants and flowers from the injury of the Weather, by covers by straw or dung, Earth up the Roots of such Plants as the frost hath uncover'd.

Set traps to destroy Vermine; where you have, or sow such plants or seeds as they indure.

Take fowl, destroy Sparrows in Barns, and near them; kill Bul-finches that feed on the buds of fruit-trees.

Dig a weedy Hop-garden.

Turn up your Bee-hives, and sprinkle them with warm and sweet wort dexterously. Also you may remove Bees.

### *February.*

This is a principal Seed-month, for such they usually call *Lenten grain*.

This Month is usually subject to much rain or snow: if it prove either, it is not to be account-

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ted unseasonable; the Proverb being, *February fill dike, with eiber black or white.*

Now sow all sorts of grey Pease, Fitches, Beans and Oats, carry out dung and spread it before the Plough, and also on pasture ground, this being the principal month for that purpose.

Plant Quicksets newly raised; the spring being so near, they will not keep long.

Set willow Plants, or Pitchers, Oliers, and other Aquaticks.

Sow Mustard-seed and Hemp-seed, if the spring prove mild; feed your Swans, and make their nests where the floods reach them not.

Soyl Meadows that you cannot overflow or water; catch Moles, and level Mole-hills.

Also this is a very good time for plashing of Quick-sets, shrouding or lopping of tree or cutting Coppices.

You may get prune and trim Fruit trees, and cleanse them from moss and cankers: Now is a very good time for grafting the more forward sort of fruit Trees if the Weather be temperate.

Your tender Wall fruit cut not till you think the hard frosts are over.

Plant Vines, or any sort of fruit trees, in open weather: Trim up your pallisade hedges; Set Kernels, Nuts or stone fruit, and other hard seeds.

Lay branches to take root, or place baskets of earth for the branches to pass through.

Sow Aniseeds, Beans, Pease, Radish, Parsnips, Carriots, Onions, Parsly, Spinnage and other hardy herbs or seeds, and plant Cabbage plants; plant out Collesflowers into warm places, also plant Ligerice, yet you may destroy Sparrows.

Now

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Now is the time the Bul-finch does the greatest harm to the buds of fruit trees.

Make up your hot beds for Millions, Cucumbers, sow Asperagus, continue vermine traps, and pick up all the snails you can find, and destroy Frogs and their spawn.

A good time to sew fish-ponds, and take fish, the most fish being now in season.

Now you may if the weather prove mild plant Hops and dress them that are out of heart.

Half open your passages for Bees, and now may ye remove them.

### *March.*

The beginning of *March* usually concludes the nipping Winter, the end intimates the subsequent welcome spring, according to the Proverb, *March cometh in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb.* If it proves cold, it is seasonable to check the pregnant buds, till a more seasonable time approaches. If this Month prove dry, the Country-man counts it ominous of a happy year for Corn.

Let Cattle no longer feed on Meadows nor Marshes you intend to mow; have a special regard to the fences, both of Meadow and Corn.

About the end of this Month you may begin to sow Barley, earlier in clay than in sand, you may now rowl wheat if the weather prove dry; make an end of sowing all sorts of pulse. You may now shroud or lop old trees, and fell coppice wood better than at any other season in the year.

This is the only time for the raising of the best brood of Poultry.



It is a good time to set *Osfers*, *Willows*, and other *Aquaticks*; Sow the Rye call'd *Marce Rye*.

In this Month and the next, you may Sow all sorts of French Grasses, or new Hays, as *Clover*, *St. Foyn*, &c. now sow *Hemp* and *Flax* if the weather be temperate.

The principal time in the year for the destruction of *Moles*.

Sow any sort of white Pease or *Hastings*.

This is the principal month for grafting all sorts of Fruits. Now cover the roots of all such trees you have laid bare in the winter preceeding, and remove in the latter season.

Carry dung into your Gardens, Orchards, &c.

Turn your Fruit in the room where it lies, but open not the windows.

You may now transplant most sorts of Garden herbs, sweet herbs, and Summer Flowers; make hot beds for Cucumbers and *Millons*. *Saffron* may also now be planted and *Madder*.

Now sow *Endive*, *Succory*, *Leeke*, *Raddish*, *Beets*, *Parsnips*, *Skirrets*, *Parsly*, *Sorrel*, *Buglos*, *Borrage*, *Chervil*, *Sellery*, *Smallage*, *Allisanders*, &c. Also *Lettice*, *Onions*, *Garlick*, *Orach*, *Purslain*, *Turnips*, *Pease*, *Carrots*, *Cabbage*, *Cresses*, *Fennel*, *Marjorum*, *Basil*, *Tobacco*, *Leeks*, *Spinage*, *Marigolds*, &c.

Dress up and string your *Strawberry* beds, uncover *Asparagus* beds, and transplant *Asparagus*; slip and plant *Artichoaks*, and *Liquorice*.

Stake and bind up the weakest plants, against the winds; sow *Pinks*, *Carnations*, &c. In this month sow pine kernels, and the seeds of all *Winter Greens*.

Plant all Garden herbs, and Flowers that have fibrous roots.

Sow

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Sow choice Flowers that are not natural for our clime in hot beds this month.

You may plant Flows, it is a very seasonable time to dress them.

Now the Bees sits, keep them close night and morning, if the Weather prove ill. You may yet remove Bees.

### *April.*

The Mornings now seem Pleasant the days long.

A dry season to sow Barly is best, to prevent weeds if *April* prove dry fallowing is good.

Fell the timber you intend to bark; if the Spring be forward; cleanse and rid the Coppices, and preserve them from Cattle: Keep Geese and Swine out of Commons or Pastures.

Pick up Stones in the new sown Land; Sow Hemp and Flax.

Cleanse Ditches, and get in your Manure that lies in the Streets or Lanes, or lay it on heaps.

Set Osiers, Willows, and other Aquaticks, before they are too forward.

You may throughout this Month sow Clover-grass, St. Foyn, and all French or other Grasses or Hays.

You may yet graft some sorts of fruit in the flock the beginning of this month.

Now sow all sorts of Garden seeds in dry weather, and plant all sorts of Garden herbs in wet weather.

Plant French beans, Cucumbers, Mellons, Artichoaks and Madder, and sow some tender seeds that could not endure the harder frosts, set French beans.

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Gather up Worms and Snails after evening showers, or early in the morning.

Sow your Annual Flowers that come of seeds, that you may have flowers all the Summer; and transplant such Flowers with Fibrous roots you left removed in *March*: Sow also the seeds of Winter greens.

Now bring forth your tender plants you preserve in your conservatory. except the Orange tree; which may remain till *May*.

Transplant and remove your tender shrubs as Fasmynes, Myrtles, Oleanders; towards the end Plant Hops, and pole them in the beginning of *April*, and bind them to the poles.

Open the doors of the Bee hives, for now they hatch, that they may reap the benefit of the Flory Spring and be careful of them.

### *May.*

This Month ushers in the most welcome season of the year: Now gentle *Zephirus* fans the sweet buds and the Coelestial drops water *Flora's* Garden.

The Country mans heart is reviv'd (if this month prove seasonable) with the hopes of a happy *Autumn*; if it prove cold, it is an omen of good for good health, and promises fair for a full Barn, the pleasure of *Angling* is now in its splendor, especially for the *Trout* and *Salmon*.

Now wean the Lambs you intend to have the milk of their ewes. forbear cutting or cropping trees you intend shall thrive, till *October*; kill Ivy.

If your Corn be too rank, now you may mow it with sheep before it be too forward.



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weed Corn. In some places Barly may be sown in this month.

Now sow Buck wheat, or Brank; sow latter Pease, also Hemp and Flax may yet be sown.

Weed Quicksets, drain Fen and wet Grounds; Twifallow your Land; carry out soil or compost, gather stones from the Fallows, turn out the Calves to grass; overcharge not your Pastures least the Summer prove dry; get home your fewel; begin to burn beat your Land; stub or root out grass, Furze, Broom or Fern; and grub up such Coppices, or other shrubby woody places you intend should not grow again.

Sell off your Winter fed Cattle.

About the end of this month mow Clovergrass St. Foyn, and other French grasses. Now leave off watering your Meadows, lest you gravel or rot your grass.

Look now after your Sheep, if this month proves rainy, lest the rot surprize them.

Plant all sorts of Winter greens.

Sow the more tender Garden seeds, as sweet Marjoram, Bassile, Thyme and hot Aromatick Herbs and Plants; Set Sage and Rosemary.

Cover no longer your Cucumbers, Mellons, &c. excepting with Grasses, sow Purslain, Lettice, &c.

At the end of this month, take up such Tulips which are dried in the stalk.

Bind Hops to their poles, and make up the hills after rain.

Watch the Bees now ready to swarm.

### *June.*

A shower at this time of the year is generally welcome, now that the glorious Sun glads the spirit

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spirit of nature by his approach. And the grain and fruits shew themselves to the joy of the thirsty Earth: The trees are all in their rich array, and the earth it self laden with the countrey mans wealth; if the Weather be calm, it makes the Farmer smile on his hopeful crop.

This month is the prime season for the washing and shearing of sheep; in the forward meadows now graze for hay.

To Cast mud out of Ditches, Pools or Rivers: This is the best time to raise Swine for Breeders.

Fallow your Wheat Land in hot weather; it kills the weeds.

Carry Manure, Lime and Manure of what kind soever, to your land, bring home your Coles, and other necessary fowel fetch far off before the teams are busied at the Hay harvest.

Weed Corn, sow Rape and Cole seed, and also Turnipseed: Now Mildews or Honydews begin to fall.

Mind your Sheep, as we advised you in *May*.

Now begin to inoculate, beware of cutting Trees, other than the young shoots of this year: pluck off buds where you are not willing they should branch forth.

Water the latter planted trees, and lay moist weeds, &c. at the roots of them.

It is a seasonable time to distill aromatic and Medicinal herbs, flowers, &c. and to dry them in the shade for the Winter; also to make syrups, &c.

Gather Snails, Worms, &c. and destroy Ants and other Vermine.

Set Saffron, plant Rosemary, and Gillyflowers; sow Lettice and other Sallets for latter Salleting.

Gather

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Gather seed that are ripe, and preserve them that are cool and dry : water the dry beds ; take up your Bulboes roots of Tulips, Anemonies, &c.

Inoculate Jasmines, Roses, &c. Also transplant any sort of Bulboes roots, that keep not well out of the ground, now plant slips of Myrtle sow latter pease.

Dig ground where you intend a Hop Garden, and bind such Hops to the poles as the wind hath shaken off.

Bees now swarm plentifully ; therefore be very vigilant over them, they will requite your care.

### *July*

In this month ply your Hay harvest ; for a day wasted many pounds lost ; chiefly when the weather is uncertain shear all manner of field sheep.

Summer stir rich stiff grounds, soyl all mixt earths, and latter, soyl all loose hot lands. Let herbs you would preserve now run to seed ; cut off the stalks of out landish flowers and cover the root with new earth, so well mixt with manure as may be ; sell all such Lambs as you feed for the Butcher ; fence up your Coppice grafe your elder under woods and bring home all your field Timber. Gather your Fimble or early Hemp and Flax. Sow Turnip seed. This is the time for inoculating choice fruits and roses, &c. and for your Summers pruning of your Wall trees, and the making Cherry wine, Raspberry wine, &c. Sow Sallet herbs for latter Salleting, and also Pease, grafe by approach, and inoculate Jasmines, Oranges, &c. Water your Hops if the season prove dry.

Now



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Now the Bees cast their latter swarms which must be prevented, they being of no advantage to the entrance of young Bees.

*August.*

You may yet Trifallow, also lay on Compost or Soyl, as well on your Barly land as Wheat land.

Carry home your wood and fewel for winter.

Provide good seed, and well pickt, against seed time.

Put your Ewes and Cows you like not, a fattening.

This is the principal harvest month for all sorts of grain, therefore make use of good weather when you have it.

About the end of this month mow your after grass, also Clover and St. Foyn, and other French Hays and Grasses, and geld Lambs.

You may inoculate still in the beginning of this month. Make Cyder of Summer fruits, prune away superfluous branches from your Wall-fruit trees, but leave not the fruit bare. Pull up suckers from the roots of trees; unbind the buds you inoculated a month before; if taken. Plant Saffron, set slips of Gilliflowers, sow Ani-seeds; you may now transplant most flowers and herbs, seeds of flowers and herbs, are now to be gather'd, also Onions, Garlick, &c. Sow Cabbage Coleflowere, Turnips, &c. against the spring, you may slip Gilliflowers, and transplant bulbous roots about Bartholomew tide, and dress and plant the Rose tree. Prop up those poles in the Hop-garden that are blown down, also near the end of the month gather Hops.

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Towards the end of the month take Bees, unless the goodness of the weather provoke you to stay till the middle of next; Destroy Wasps and other insects, and streighten the passage to secure them from Robbers.

### *September.*

Amend the Fences about the new sown Corn; skare away Crows, Pigeons, &c.

Geld Rams, Bulls, &c. sow ponds; put Boars up in the sty. Beat out hempseed, and water hemp; gather mast, and put Swine into the woods. Carry home Brakes; saw Timber and Boards; manure your wheat lands before the Plow. Make Cyder and Perry of Fruits that are not lasting. Gather most sorts of winter pears, and some sorts of winter apples, but long lasting fruit gather not till after *Michaelmas*.

Sow Cabbages, Colicflowers, Turnips, Onions &c. Artichoaks, Sparagus, and out of the woods Straw-berries, plant your Tulips, and bulbous roots, that were formerly taken up, or remove and transplant.

Retire your choice plants in conservatories, Gather Saffron towards the end of this month, Finish the gathering and drying of your Hops, take Bees in time and strengthen their passage into the hive; you may also now remove them.

### *October.*

Lay up Barly land as high as you can; seed time yet continues, especially for wheat. Drain the new sown Corn Land, sow Acorns Nuts, or other Mast or berries, sow Pease in fat land, plant Quicksets, and trees, also plash hedges or Quicksets. Wean the foals from your draught-mares

that

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that were foaled in the spring. Put off the sheep that you have no wintring for. Make Mault, make Cyder of winter fruit. Remove all sorts of Trees that shed the Leaf. Trench the stiffer ground for Gardens or Orchards. Lay open the Roots of old trees, and such as spend themselves too much or soon in blossoms. Gather the rest of your winter fruit, also Saffron. Sow all sorts of fruit stones, nuts, kernells, or seeds. Cut and prune Rose trees. Plant your bulbous roots, of all sorts, and those of fibrous roots, also hops, and bag up those that are dry'd remove Bees.

### *November.*

Overflow your meadows that are fed low. Destroy Ant hills, set Pease or Beans. Trench or dig gardens, remove or plant fruit trees, make Cyder of hard fruit. Prune trees. Gather the rest of your fruit, lay up Carrots, Parsnips, Cabbage, cover your tender Plant with horse litter or long dung, dig up Ziquorice, plant Tulips, if the weather be not too hard? plant Roses. Sow nuts or stones, dig your Hop garden. Stop up your Bees Close. Conclude to sow your Wheat and Rye. Kill your Hogs and Poultry to lessen your stock. Lay straw to rot in moist places for dung, also lay dung on heaps. Fell wood and timber for machinick uses. Break Hemp and Flax.

### *December.*

Now is the time to house old Cattle; cut all sorts of trees that shed their leaf, and are not too tender. Let horses blood, fat Swine, and kill them. Plow up the Land for Beans, drain corn fields where water offends, and overflow those grounds that want it.



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Destroy Ant hills, set fruit trees, such as are not subject to the injury of the Frost; Transplant all sorts of trees in open weather, Plant Vines, and other slips and sions and stock for grafting, prune Vines if the weather be open, cover the beds of Asparagus, Artichoaks and Strawberries, with warm horse litter. Sow Beans and Pease if the wether be moderate; trench your ground and dress it against the Spring, set traps for Vermene, pick Snails out of the holes of Walls. Sow or set Bay berries, Lawrel berries dropping ripe. Dig up Liquorice, dig a weedy hop Garden, and carry dung into it, and mix it with the Earth, feed weak flocks of Bees.

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*Quest. What is the Observation that is commonly made on St. Pauls day being the 25th of January;*

*Ans. If Saint Pauls day be fair and clear,*

*It doth batoken a happy year.*

*But if it chance to Snow or Rain,*

*Then shall be dear all sorts of Grain.*

*And if that winds be aloft,*

*Then shall we hear of wars full oft;*

*And if it do thunder that day,*

*Great dearth shall be as wise men say.*

*Another Observation.*

*When our Lord doth lye in our Ladies lap,*

*Then O England beware a clap.*

*Other short Observations for each month in the year.*

*January.*

*If the Sun shine the twelfth of January, there shall be store of wind that year.*

*February.*

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## *February.*

If it thunders upon *Shrove-Thuesday*, it foretelleth wind, store of fruit and plenty, the Sun beams being early abroad ; and so much as he shineth on that day, the like he will shine every day in Lent.

## *March.*

So many Mists, as there be in *March*, so many hoar Frosts there will be after *Easter*.

## *April.*

If it rain upon *Ascension* day, (which most commonly falleth out in *April*) it doth betoken scarcity of all kind of food for Cattle, being fair, it signifieth Plenty.

## *May.*

If the Sun shine upon the twenty fifth of *May*, wine shall prosper well ; also in the end of *May*, if Oaks begin to bear blossoms, it doth foreshew great store of Tallow and Fruit:

## *June.*

If it rain the twenty fourth day of *June*, Hazel-nuts will not prosper.

## *July.*

If it be fair three Sundays before *St. James's*, dry Corn will be good, but wet Corn will wither.

## *August.*

If the wind change on *St. Bartholomews* day at night, the following year will not be good.

## *September.*

So many days old the Moon is on *Michaelmas* day, so many floods will be that winter.

## *October.*

If leaves now hang upon the trees, it portendeth a cold winter or many Caterpillars.

*November.*

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## **November.**

If on the tenth of *November* the Heavens be cloudy it prognosticates a wet winter; if clear and dry a sharp winter.

## **December.**

If Christmas-day comes in the new of the Moon, it is a token of a good year; and so much the better, by how much it is nearer the new of the Moon; the contrary hapneth in the decrease.

*Thus each Month doth procure an Observation,  
Which may be made useful unto the Nation;  
For if that we do things but rightly weigh,  
We will believe what our Forefathers say,  
Who by experience knew such things to be,  
And so preserv'd them from posterity.*

**Qu.** *What is that they call the Golden number, Epact, Circle of the Sun, Dominical Letter, &c.*

**Ans.** The Golden number is the revolution of 19 years, in which time all the Lunations or Aspects betwixt the Sun and Moon return to the same place they were in before, and is so called, either because it was sent in Golden Letters from *Alexandria* in *Egypt* to *Rome*, or that it is written in red or golden Letters in the *Kalendar*.

The Epact is the number of 11 days, which the Solar year doth exceed the Lunar; the one consisting of 365 days, the other of 354. So that in every four years there is added a number more than 30, which being greater than the Epact can be, (for from change to change there can be but 30 days) therefore 30 being taken from that excess, the remainder is the Epact for the next year.

The



The Epact is thus found out; multiply the Golden number of the year by 11, the product whereof if it be under thirty is the Epact, but if it be above thirty, they divide the product by thirty, and the remainder shall be the Epact.

*Quest. What is the Circle of the Sun?*

*Ans.* The Circle of the Sun is a Revolution of 28 years, in which time the Dominical Letters make all their several changes, and is called the Solar Circle, because it comprehends all the varieties and changes that the Sunday Letter can have.

*Quest. What is the meaning of the Dominical Letter.*

*Ans.* The Dominical Letter is always one of these seven; A. B. C. D. E. F. G. and sheweth the Sunday Letter all the year. But in Bissextile or Leap-year, there be two Dominical Letters, whereof the first holdeth from the beginning of *January* to *St. Matthias Eve*, and the other to the years end.

The Golden number and the Dominical Letter change the first of *January*, and the Epact the first of *March*. *Easter day* never falleth lower than the twenty third of *March*, nor higher than the 25 of *April*.

*Shrove Sunday* hath his range between the first of *February*, and the 7 of *March*; *Whitsunday* between the 10 of *May* and the thirteenth of *June*; And for a Rule for *Shrovetide*, the Tuesday after the change of the Moon in *February* is always *Shrove Tuesday*.

*Quest. What causes Eclipses and full of the Moon?*

*Ans.* The Eclipse of the Moon is caused by the interposition

interposition of the Earth betwixt the Sun and her, for she being of a dark body of her self, and having no light but what she borrows by reflection from the Sun, so far as the Earth interposes, so much of her is darkned. The cause of the Suns Eclipse is when the Moon passes betwixt the Sun and us, and shadows some of the body thereof from our sight, so that what part is interposed by the Moon cannot be seen by us, by reason she is a dark body, hiding the same from our sight. The Moon being in right opposition against the Sun, causes her to be at the full, as her increase is by drawing nearer to opposition, and her decrease by departing further off.

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*Directions for Setting, Trowling,  
Lombelling, taking Birds with Lime  
twigs and Springes, with the exact  
method of Firing at a Mark.*

**I**F you design to Set Game and take them in a Net, such I mean as generally take the ground for their refuge, as *Partridges, Snipes,* and the like; you must procure a Spaniel of a good breed, not too large nor too small, but of a moderate size, of about half a year old; and by holding a switch over him, bring him by degrees to cower and creep upon his belly, looking directly in your face, as likewise to follow you in that posture up and down the Room, making much of him when he does so, carrying him abroad in a slip, and having a live Fowl, lay it at some distance, and leading him near it, make him lye down and

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watch it a good space ; then having a Net ready, draw it both over him and it ; after that chear him, and let him range, and in so doing after, he will become a good Setter, especially if you let him range and observe the manner of a Setter : When by this means the Game is set, you must observe the Dogs eyes exactly, coming with your Net spread at half-Angle, directly against him, as softly as may be, stooping as low as convenience will permit ; for altho the eyes of the Fowl are fixed on the Dog, yet upon the noise of the least motion, they are apt to spring, and therefore if you cannot see them, the Grass or Stubble being high, spread your Net on a sudden, and drop it with a kind of bearing off, just where you perceive the Dog to fix his eyes, especially if he be to the windward on them, for then if he sees them not, the scent directs him very near them, and thereupon make in as fast as you can, least they escape the Net by running under, or its being born up by Stubble, Grass, or Clumpers, more in one part than another. These sort of Wild Fowl are likewise taken by Trowling or Trampling, which is in this wise ; having a Net spread, and carryed between two or four persons over places where you have observed their dung to be, or that is most likely to lodge them, when in the middle of it let there be hang a small Rattle or Lanthorn, which must trail upon the ground, or if there be a small glimmering light in it, is the better : If you go upon any such design in a dark night, tho a Moon light night that wants it not, is best ; when upon the noise, the Game will spring, at what time letting all at once the Net drop, you have what you sought for, unless by a great chance, it drop too soon or too late.



Lowbelling is another way to take wild Fowl, which in one sort, may be said to suit with the former, though it is used different ways, called by some Hedge driving, and used after this manner? Having observed in what hedge the Birds roost, one goes with a Link or Torch on the one side with a small bell in his hand, and on the other a person with a long Pole, who beats the Hedge, whilst two others follow him that has the Light, or rather go between him and the hedge, with a Blanket, Sheet, Net, or Boughs, and as the Birds fly out, dazled with the light, (for it must be effected in a dark Night) they are either overwhelmed or beaten down.

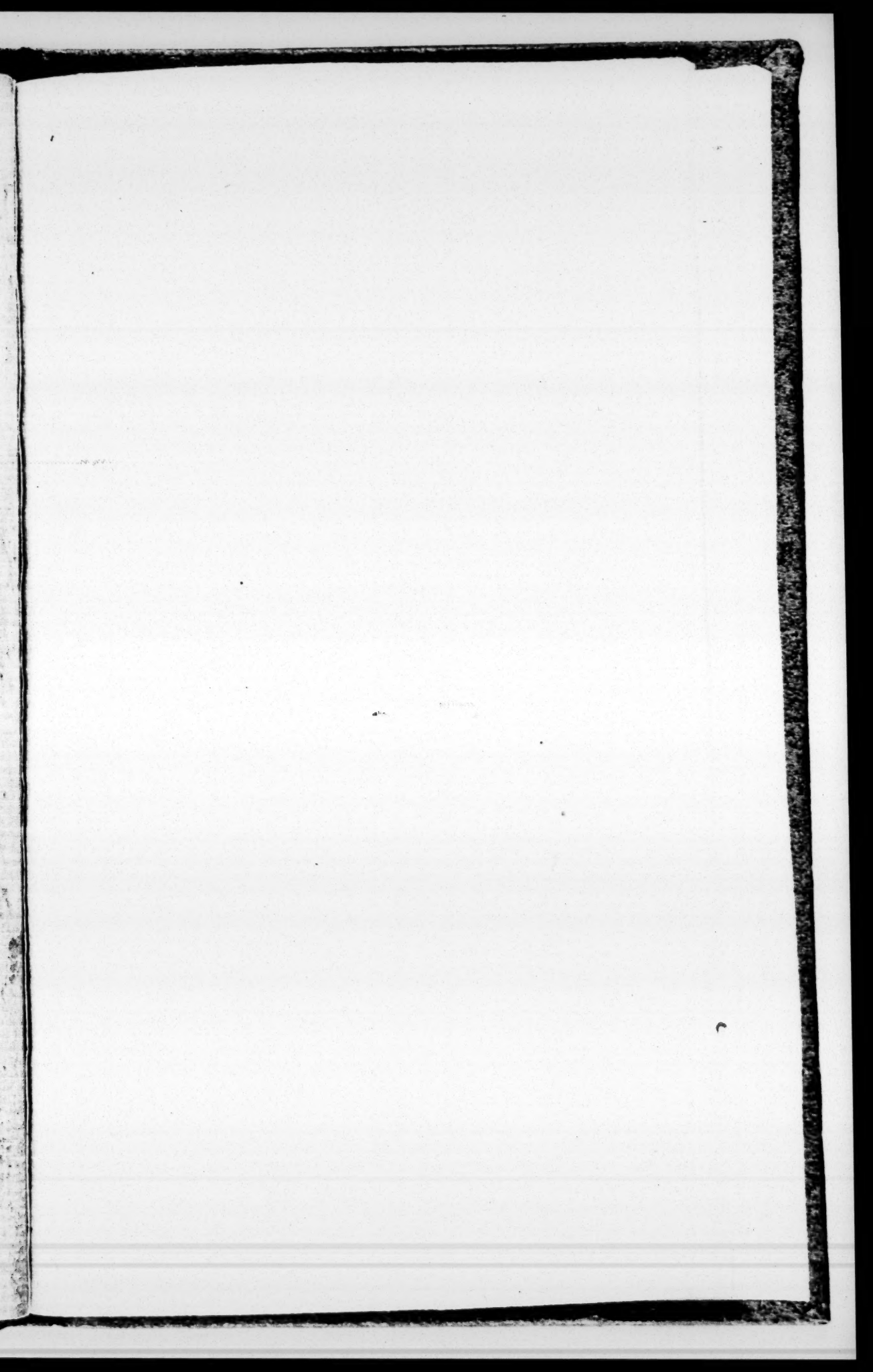
As for Liming, it is thus: Take divers small Twigs, daub them over with the gluttenous matter call'd Bird-Lime, and scatter them carelessly upon Bird Seed, or other Birds meat, and the Birds lighting upon them, they will stick so fast to they feet or wings, that if he who watches them be quick, he may take them alive, small Birds especially, they being not able to fly away with them. Shringes made of Hair or Silk are used in divers places, one end being fastned to a Pole that bends by force of the Line, which is slightly fastned by a Trigger to a hooked stick, driven in the ground, bearing upon a little board or bent with, like the wood of a Racket; on or in which, Meat being layed, when as any weighty Bird threads thereon, or pecks hard, it flies up, and drawing close, takes them by the Legs or Neck, Much more I might say in this kind, but it being vulgarly known, and ought to be used for pleasure and not for Profit, I shall wave them.

As for Presenting a Piece at a Mark on the Ground, Tree, or Hedge, or on the Wing, to make

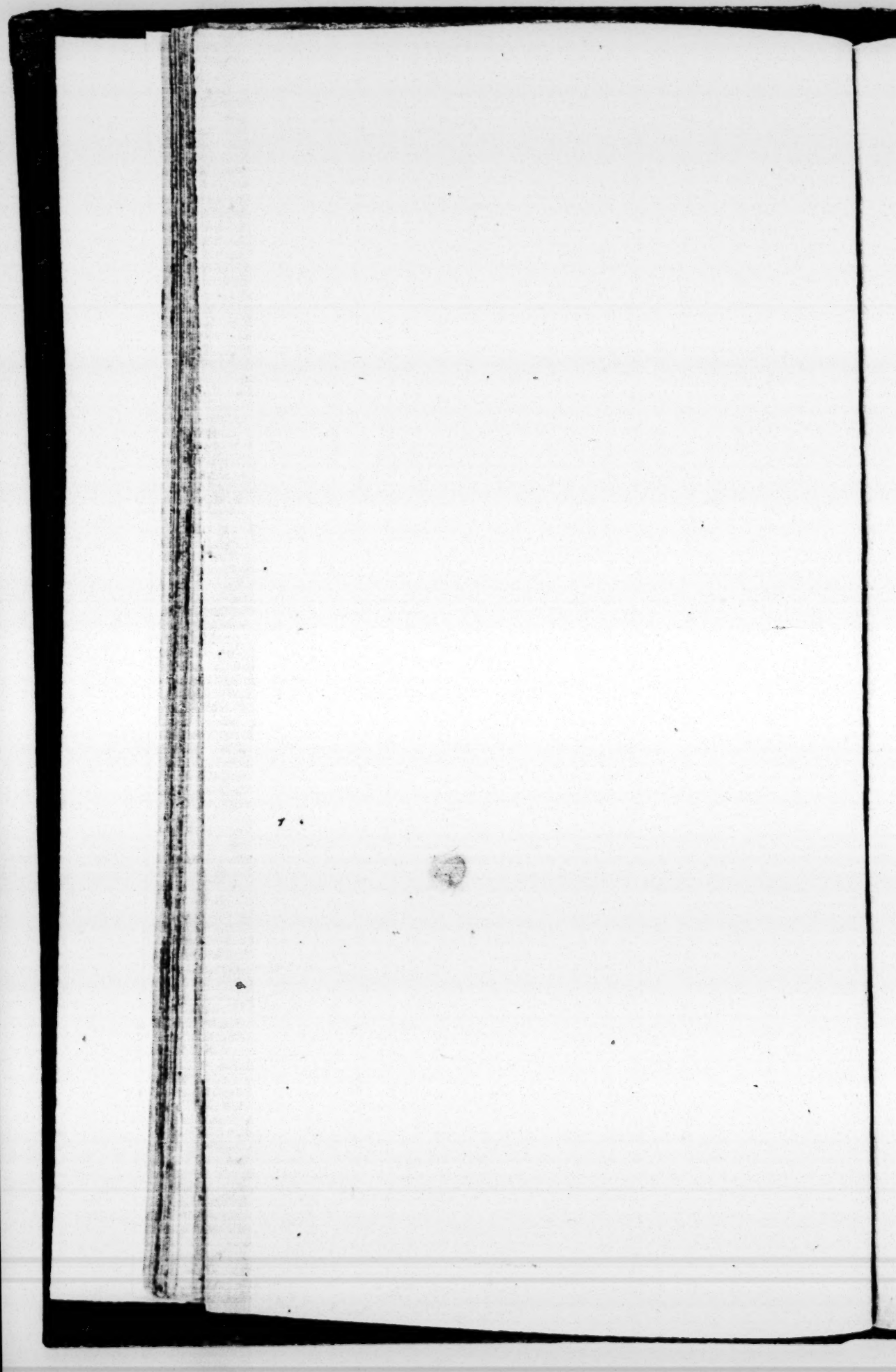
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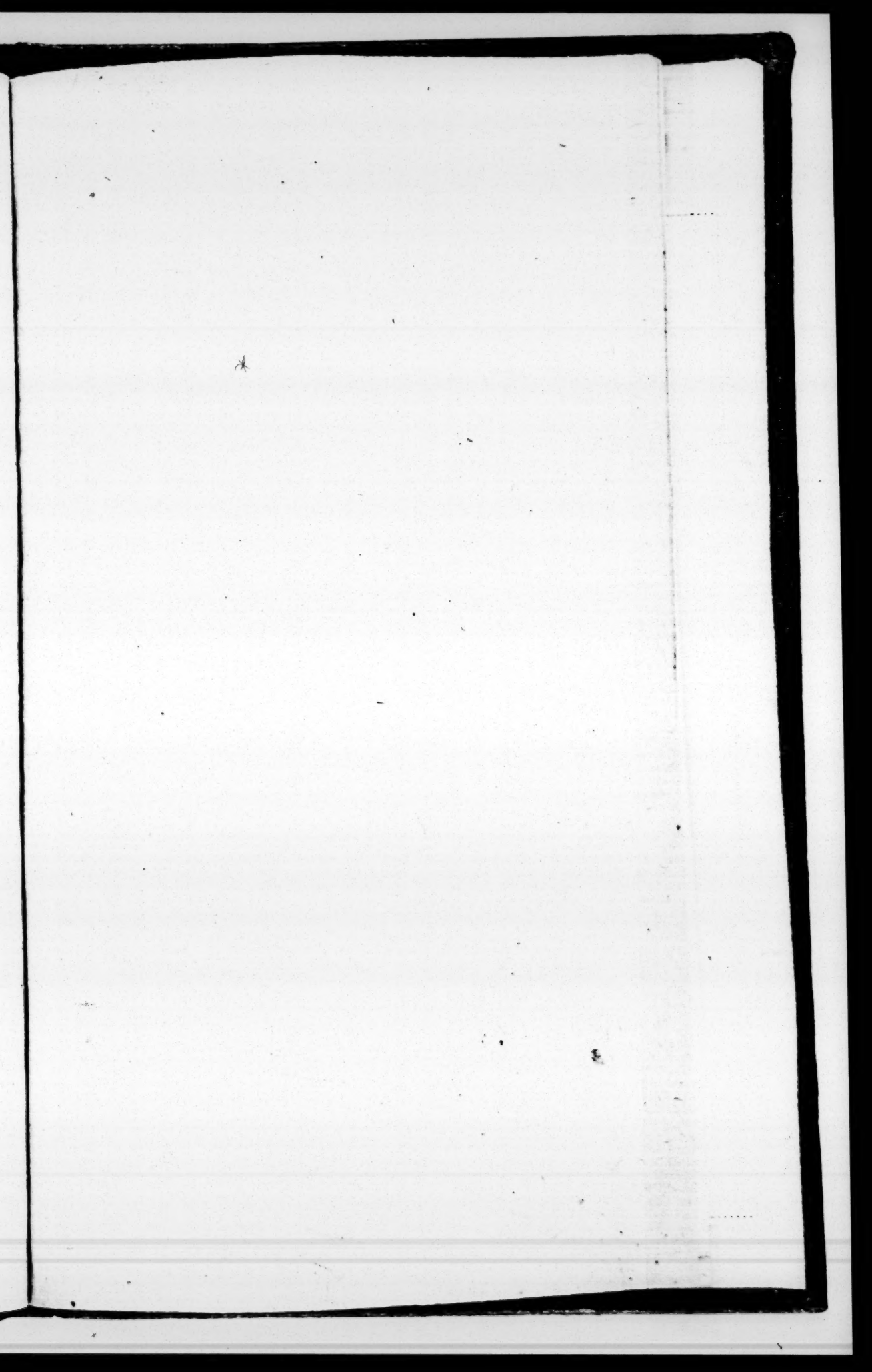
make a true Fire, these things are necessary to be observed: First, if the Mark be on the ground, stand bolt upright, bear your Piece strongly against your right shoulder, towards the upper part, wink with your left eye, and ground, as you imagine, the Muzzle of your Piece, about three inches on this side the Mark, then without stirring your head or turning away give fire, and if your Piece carry true and the Bird be within Shot, it is certainly your own. If you Fire at a Hedge, which is called a Level mark, let the Bird you intend to strike be hid as it were, with the Muzzle of your Piece, and keep your hand steady, so that the Piece move not, and you cannot miss. If the Mark you aim at be upon a tree of any considerable height, it is not convenient as it were to stand under it, but at some distance the better stand if your Piece will serve and then let the Muzzle of your Piece appear to be an Inch above the Mark, and it will be yours if you are steady, for the least motion causes the Shot to lie wide. If you fire upon the wing the Muzzle of your Gun be two yards before the Fowl when you Fire, unless you can meet & shoot after her in a strait Line.

**F I N I S.**









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